



In the 8th grade Joshua Hite entered Trillium Academy with the hopes of turning around his education. While at his traditional public school he got in trouble a lot and it was time for a change. Hite's mom realized he had the potential to do so much more so she enrolled him at the academy where the teachers are more involved and Hite was able to get deeper into his work.

Hard times continued for Hite when he was diagnosed with ADHD in the 9th grade and his grades continued to slip. People told him that he "would be unable to achieve at the same level as other students and that I wouldn't be a normal kid." Determined to prove them wrong, Hite began to study more and buckle down. Math was a struggle for him, so with the help of his teachers and studying after school he was able to improve his grades to a 3.68 grade point average after his sophomore year and all the way to a 4.0 at the end of his junior year. "My goal was to be a straight 'A' student," and with the hard work of Hite and Trillium Academy he was able to achieve his goals.

Most influential to Hite was his art and math teachers. Ms. Potter, Hite's art teacher, always encouraged him. "I wasn't that good at art, when she saw my work she'd say 'this is awesome' and we've been friends ever since." She was always there as a positive influence in his life, giving him advice on anything from grades to getting grounded at home.

Also, serving a very influential role in Hite's life was his math teacher, Mr. Draper. Draper dedicated a lot of after school time to helping him improve. "I would always ask questions and he never got annoyed," Hite said. "He would always sit down and help me no matter how long it took."

Hite plans to attend Washtenaw Community College in the fall and transfer to Wayne State University in two years, where his ultimate goal is to become a psychiatrist.

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